

Summary for Housing Sub-committee; 10-year plan to end homelessness, Long Beach, CA
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Title of Article: The Campaign for Affordable Housing – *Taking Action to Solve America's Housing Crisis*; California Planning Roundtable, California Department of Housing and Community Development – *Myths and Facts About Affordable & High Density Housing*.

Date:

1. Please describe the goal of the project/program found in the article/report?

The goal of both articles was to showcase the need for affordable housing by highlighting the types of individuals who are in need of affordable housing. Furthermore, the documents attempted to dispel some of the common myths associated with affordable housing, and suggested ways in which these myths might be overcome.

2. What were the key points?

The Campaign for Affordable Housing document set out to make two main points. First, the individuals who are in need of affordable housing are working individuals that the document refers to as ordinary people holding ordinary jobs. Hence, the salaries of a Deputy Sheriff, Legal Secretary, Accounting Clerk, and Nurses aid are low enough that they are prospects for affordable housing. Their second point was that home prices have increased much more rapidly than income in most parts of the country thus creating a need for housing that more closely associates with individuals salaries. The authors also point out that higher density housing decreases traffic congestion and lowers infrastructure costs.

3. Is this a proposal or an existing project/program? If the project/program was completed, what were the outcomes? If it is a proposal, what are the expected outcomes?

It appears as if the Campaign for Affordable Housing is an existing group who created this power point presentation as a means to publicize the need for affordable housing and make suggestions for its implementation. The document speaks directly to city officials and citizens groups in an attempt to create a more

accepting environment for affordable housing in the jurisdictions which the presentation is shown. The accompanying pamphlet was provided by the California Planning Roundtable, a group of California planning professionals.

4. Who was involved and how did they meet the project goals?
No explicit project goals other than raising consciousness about issues surrounding affordable and high density housing were raised. The primary organization responsible for the power point presentation was the Campaign for Affordable Housing. The accompanying pamphlet was created by the California Planning Roundtable, an organization made up entirely of California planners employed in both the private and public sector.
5. How was it funded? How much did it cost?
No mention is made concerning the Campaign for Affordable Housing's funding source. It appears as if the campaign is run as a non-profit organization. Similarly, the California Planning Roundtable's pamphlet gave no mention of how much funding went into the preparation of the document. Because the California Planning Roundtable is a division of the California Department of Housing and Community Development, it is safe to assume that the majority of their funding is provided by the State of California.
6. Any pertinent statistics found?
*-Higher Density affordable housing **decreases traffic congestion**. Studies indicate that the average resident in a compact neighborhood will drive 20-30% less than residents of a neighborhood half as dense. At densities of 8 units per acre and higher, neighborhoods begin to support bus and rail transit (www.sierraclub.org)*
*-Higher density affordable housing **lowers infrastructure costs**. Infrastructure costs per housing unit significantly decline as density increases: in developments at 30 units per acre or greater to about \$10,000 from \$90,000 per unit when built at 4 units per acre. (Urban Land Institute, Wieman, 1996)*
*-Individuals who live in Affordable housing are **stable community members**. When rents are guaranteed to remain stable, tenants move less often. In San Francisco's BRIDGE affordable housing, turnover rates are less than 10%*

annually. A 10% turnover rate is approximately the same for single family homeowners.

7. Any unique approaches to ending homelessness identified?
Both of these documents posit that increasing the availability of affordable housing will reduce rates of homelessness. By providing housing that more evenly correlates with average wages, more individuals will be able to both experience home ownership and be able to afford rental rates.

8. Any questions raised by this plan?
Although the documents do not explicitly raise any questions regarding affordable housing, they do insist that attitudes about affordable housing can be changed at both an individual, community, and regional level by raising consciousness about the proven benefits of providing housing that is affordable to working individuals and families.

9. Potential goals to include in the matrix?
 - a) ?
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)